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430 Rec ~~CT/PTO~~ 27 SEP 2000

HUBR 1165

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Stuke et al.
 International
 Appln. No. : PCT/EP99/02238
 Filed : Herewith

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 2/28/01
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For : ~~ADHESIVE-FREE POLYMER COMPONENT JOINTS FOR~~
 PRODUCING CLOSED MICRO- AND NANO-CHANNEL
 STRUCTURES

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
 and Trademarks
 Washington, D.C. 20231

September 26, 2000

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

SIR:

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel pending claims 1-22.

Please add the following claims 23-44, as follows:

23. A process for the adhesive-free production of polymeric components, including
 the steps of:

- (a) preparing a polymeric (substrate which, on at least one surface, has depressions)
 forming micro- and/or nanochannel structures,

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